



## Rehabilitation, Restoration, and Resurfacing of the Glacier Point Road

### Where is the project located?

The project site is located approximately 33 miles north of Oakhurst, CA, midway between Wawona and Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park.

The proposed project would include 5.1 miles of the Glacier Point Road between, and including improvements to, the Chinquapin intersection and the Badger Pass Ski Area parking lot. The existing roadway was completed in 1936, replacing the original wagon road built in 1882. This area attracts high volumes of traffic year-round because it provides access to Bridalveil Creek Campground, Glacier Point, the Badger Pass Ski Area, and numerous trailheads.

### Why undertake this project?

The existing road surface, associated culvert and drainage systems, as well as the Badger Pass Ski Area parking lot, are in need of repair. In addition, two intersections associated with this segment (Chinquapin and the access road to Badger Pass Ski Area) are in need of redesign to help improve safety conditions and drainage problems, and to correct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) deficiencies.

Numerous culverts are not adequately spaced, lack sufficient size, or have deteriorated structure and need to be replaced for improved drainage efficiency. Culverts frequently fill with silt during the winter and require cleaning each spring. Drainage ditches, including paved ditches, along some areas of the road need to be constructed.

The Badger Pass Ski Area paved parking lot has extensive alligator cracking (interconnected cracks, forming a series of small blocks resembling an alligator's skin) and groundwater seeps up through the asphalt pavement.

### What does this project propose?

- ❖ **Proposed improvements to the roadway** would include rehabilitation and/or replacement of existing culverts to improve their condition. In addition to culverts, drainage ditches along this segment are in need of reconstruction to help facilitate proper drainage of the roadway. Steeply banked curves are in need of slope modification to improve safe travel, especially during winter driving conditions. Selective brush clearing is needed to improve visibility and snow removal operations.
- ❖ **Proposed improvements to the Chinquapin intersection** would address safety concerns due to poor visibility during the approach into the intersection. In addition to this, additional opportunities for chain-up/chain-down in the immediate vicinity are proposed, as well as upgrades to the accessibility of the existing restroom.
- ❖ **Proposed improvements to the Badger Pass Ski Area parking lot** include rehabilitation and/or replacement of existing drainage culverts and resurfacing of the existing parking lot.

## Will anything change with roadside parking in this project?

Treatment of roadside parking directly adjacent to the Glacier Point Road will be considered as part of this project because travel onto and off of the road corridor affects the integrity of the roadway.

Improvements would be made to turnouts east and west of the El Portal overlook. Proposed modifications to the roadside pullout would result in the reduction of a few parking spaces at the eastern end of the pullout and a small expansion of the western end of the pullout. This would create an overall safer location to pull over, stop, and get out of a vehicle.

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## What is the schedule for this project?

Public scoping for this project ended on September 16, 2005. This scoping period served as an opportunity early in the planning process for the public, organizations, and other agencies to suggest issues to be considered by the National Park Service in preparing the environmental assessment.

An environmental assessment is proposed to be issued for public review mid- February 2006. Presently, construction is expected to begin in summer/fall 2006 and to be completed by fall 2007.

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## Public Participation

Public participation in the planning process is critical. Here are some ways to stay involved in the Rehabilitation, Restoration, and Resurfacing of the Glacier Point Road Project:

- Attend a National Park Service's public open house to talk with project specialists and obtain more information on the project. Visit the park's planning web site (listed below) for upcoming dates.
- Add your name to the park's planning mailing list and receive the *Planning Update* newsletter as well as other planning- related notices. You can also submit your email address to receive the park's periodic electronic newsletter.

Mail: Superintendent  
Attn: *Planning Mailing List*  
P.O. Box 577  
Yosemite, CA 95389

Fax: 209/379- 1294

Email: Yose\_Planning@nps.gov

The status of this and other Yosemite National Park improvement projects will be periodically updated on the park's planning web site. Visit online:  
[www.nps.gov/yose/planning](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planning).